APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/635,522	08/09/2000	Tatsuma Ohkubo	195531US2	5629

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EXAMINER
SEFCHECK, GREGORY B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2662	

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/635,522	OHKUBO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Gregory B. Sefcheck	2662	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 December 2004</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>9-16, 19 and 20</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-8, 17 and 18</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

- Applicant's Amendment filed 12/20/2004 is acknowledged.

- Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 17, and 18 have been amended.

- The previous rejections under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph are withdrawn in light

  of the amendment.

- Claims 1-20 remain pending, of which claims 9-16, 19, and 20 have been

  withdrawn from consideration. These non-elected claims require explicit

  cancellation by the applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-8, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated

by Fox et al. (US006421781B1), hereafter Fox.

-     In regards to Claims 1-3, 17, and 18,

Fox discloses a proxy server apparatus and computer-readable medium for

storing information shared among client devices across a computer network (Title;

Abstract; Col. 1, lines 13-16; claim 1,2 – saving apparatus; claim 1,2,17,18 - storing

shared information via a network).

Referring to Fig. 2, Fox shows that the proxy server 114 is connected to a

network (claim 1,2 – input/output unit connected to the network) for distributing

notifications to client devices.

Fox further discloses that Server 114 contains a notification messenger, queue

and interface for managing notifications between the servers and client devices utilizing

memories and one or more microprocessors for storing and processing the notifications

and communication protocols for one or more networks. (Fig. 2; Col. 5, lines 33-50; Col.

7, lines 18-20 and 40-42; claim 1,2,17,18 – application unit performing predetermined

data processing; claim 1,2 – notification administration unit to manage notifications

between a transmitting and receiving user; claim 1,2,17 – storing unit to store sending

conditions of notifications, data including notification administration information

specifying communication methods and programs; claim 3 – application unit comprises

a plurality of application modules each configured to perform specific data processing).

Fox discloses that a request for originating notification to the client devices is

selectively sent to the notification interface of the proxy server from the web server

when an update to the shared information occurs (Fig. 2; Col. 6, lines 13-18; Col. 7,

lines 5-23; claim 1,2,17,18 – request for originating notification to the receiving user is

selectively sent to the notification administration unit based upon said application unit

receiving shared information originating from a transmitting user and I/O unit subjecting

the information to predetermined data processing and storing in storing unit).

Fox also discloses that the proxy server has the ability to authenticate requests

and notifications exchanged between the servers and clients by making reference to the

certificate contained within the notification requests (Figs. 4 and 5; Col. 8, lines 10-32;

claim 1,2,17,18 – wherein notification admin unit makes reference to notification

administration information and originates said notification based on said notification to

said receiving user, according to said sending conditions and communication method, in

response to receiving said notification request based upon a notification accompanying

origination of shared information from transmitting user being received or a

predetermined event set at said application unit occurring).

- In regards to Claims 4 and 8,

Fox discloses a proxy server apparatus for storing information shared among

client devices across a computer network that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Fox shows several types of notifications, including status requests of completed

notifications, are processed by the proxy server 114, where the proxy server relays the

notification to the client including the updated information, address of the information, or

both (Col. 7, lines 20-40; claim 4,8 – application modules add information used by

application modules corresponding to said reception confirmation notification based on

said reception confirmation notification).

- In regards to Claim 5,

Fox discloses a proxy server apparatus for storing information shared among
client devices across a computer network that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Fox shows, after an initial request, the proxy server utilizes the stored
authentication and domain information for relaying subsequent notifications to client
devices at appropriate times determined by that domain (Col. 6, lines 13-18; Col. 7,
lines 40-42; claim 5 – notification administration unit immediately originates notification
based on notification to the receiving user according to the sending conditions included
in said notification administration information, said notification selectively being
temporarily stored in the storing unit and originated at a time determined by said
sending conditions).

- In regards to Claims 6 and 7,

Fox discloses a proxy server apparatus for storing information shared among
client devices across a computer network that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Fox discloses that the proxy server can provide a status of a notification request
when it receives a notification status request. Both pending and completed notifications
may be queried (Col. 7, lines 43-49; claim 6 – upon receiving a reception state
administration request from said application modules, notification admin unit generates
reception state administration information for managing the reception state of the
shared information by said receiving user; claim 7 – upon receiving a reception

confirmation notification from a receiving user indicating that shared information has

been received, application module sends said reception confirmation notification and an

origination request to said notification admin unit, and wherein, upon receiving said

origination request, notification admin unit originates said reception confirmation

notification based on said reception confirmation notification to said transmitting user).

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 12/20/2004 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

- In the Remarks on pg. 12-13 of the Amendment, the Applicant contends

   that Fox does not disclose or suggest notification administration

   information specifying communication methods as recited in Applicant's

   claims 1, 2, 17, and 18.

- The Examiner respectfully disagrees. As shown in the rejection above,

   Fox discloses that server 114 is responsible for communicating with

   devices from different infrastructures having different properties, such as

   different communication protocols. Therefore, the disclosed server 114 of

   Fox is shown to store data including notification administration information

   specifying communication methods as recited in Applicant's claims 1, 2,

   17, and 18.

Conclusion

4.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

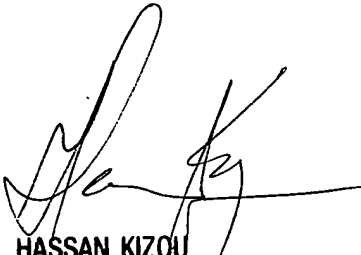than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Gregory B. Sefcheck whose telephone number is 571-

272-3098. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on 571-272-3088. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GBS
5-4-2005

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